new choir screen of Early English character, but as there is no letter-press we do not learn whose design this is, or under what circumstances it is proposed to be erected.

We mentioned some time since the unlimited freedom allowed to the public in Beverley Minster, and we advise such of our readers as may find themselves within a reasonable distance of this beautiful building, to pay it a careful visit, and not to forget their sketch book when they do so.

THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AT WORCESTER.

Worcester Cathedral (as may be inferred from what we said last week) presents a very curious admixture of all the styles of architecture which have prevailed in England since the coming of the Normans, and earlier, if the believers in the Saxon origin of the crypt, which we are not, should happen to be right. The whole history of architecture may be illustrated there, and the characteristics of each style pointed out. The crypt aforesaid; a very curious large semi-circular arch in the east wall of the south transept, with rudely sculptured capitals; and the lower part of the chapter-house, with its arcade of semi-circular intersecting arches, will serve to make evident some of the chief features of the Norman period. In the two westermost bays of the nave, where the pointed arch is mixed up with the semi-circular arch and zig-zag adornments, we see the evidence of transition to the first pointed style, of which, in its perfect state, the choir and the easternmost transepts present such beautiful specimens, wherein some of its most prominent characteristics,—the acutely-pointed arch, crisp, sharp, twisting foliage in the capitals and corbels, the dog-tooth moulding, &c., are obvious. The nave shows the change to the decorated style, and many of the window-openings throughout the cathedral, are filled in with tracery of the perpendicular period, distinguishable even by the least initiated, by the tendency of the mullions to continue perpendicularly up from the cill to the arch. Prince Arthur's monumental chapel, between the chancel and its aisle, at the junction of the south transept, affords us an example of the last period of that style, when panelling and sculptured ornament covered every foot of surface, and debasement was coming on.

That the series may be further carried on, there is a screen across this same transept, of *Italian pillars and arches* grotesquely out of place. During the perambulation of the cathedral, which Mr. Ashpitel in continuation of his paper led the association, Mr. Godwin ventured to urge the importance of such an alteration of this screen as should remove the incongruity, and the response was not unsatisfactory. At the same time he briefly pointed attention to the bad, if not dangerous, state of the eastern transepts; and we would here urge more strongly on the excellent dean and chapter the necessity of early remedial measures.

The cloisters, of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, with their lavatories, perforated piers between the windows, and the buildings attached, have many points of interest.*

Some of the adjoining buildings which were visited, seemed new, even to the town's-people who were of the party. "*The Guesten Hall*," now divided and cut up by temporary partitions and floors, is a fine apartment, and has an exquisite open roof of the fourteenth century. The restoration of this hall would be an honourable achievement, and should be again attempted. On the end wall, which is exposed, are some very curious paintings fast hastening to decay. They appear to represent the adoration of the wise men. The Virgin Mary, with the Infant Saviour in her arms, is in one compartment, and the wise men in another. Over the first, the exclamation, *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*, in Tudor letters, may be read.†

To return to the business of the meeting: on Wednesday evening, amongst the papers read were some observations on the study of brasses, by Mr. J. G. Waller.

On Thursday a party proceeded on an excursion to Pershore and Evesham, concerning which a professional friend who accompanied them gives us the following notes.

Pershore contains the remains of a fine monastic church; the choir, south transept, and a lofty decorated central tower alone are left. The choir is a beautiful specimen of Early English, and was built after the old one had been burnt in 1224. The south transept is a singular pile; its workmanship is of the rudest character, the walls are threaded by arcades at irregular heights, the lower of which is ornamented by a zigzag, formed apparently by repeated strokes of the point of a pick; the upper ones have very rude caps and plain soffits. The documentary evidence is simple; the church was founded by Egelward in 689, it was burnt in 1002, and again in 1224; nevertheless the old part is pronounced to be Norman. A member present remarked, he supposed the Saxons were, in the opinion of some folks, like the celebrated Mrs. Harris—"they didn't believe there were no sich people." We trust the active exertions now making will shortly develop something more definite on this subject. The party were escorted round the church and park by Mr. Bedford, and then partook of a luncheon provided by the Rev. Mr. Chowne, whose exertions and spirit in the cause of ecclesiastical architecture merit commendation.

From the beautiful town of Pershore, the party proceeded under the Bredon hills to the lovely vale of Evesham. The *coup d'œil* on entering this town is superb. The bright broad river, the ancient bridge, the town divided into two parts, and rising right and left from the rich vale; and last, not least, the unique sight of three splendid towers in one churchyard excited remarks of enthusiastic character. Space will not allow us to enter at length into all the archæological and antiquarian features of the place—suffice it to say, that the curious church of All Saints and the church of St. Lawrence stand in the same churchyard. The latter a short time back was roofless, and dilapidated, the nettles filled the aisles, and the grey moss hung round the pillars; it has lately been restored, under the direction of Mr. Eginton.

So far, "our own correspondent," as contemporaries say. The archæologists then proceeded to the residence of Dr. Beale Cooper, where another collation awaited them; in fact, hospitality was shewn the association everywhere. Of this, however—of Lord and Lady Conyngham's *soirée* on that same evening, when Mr. Buckingham prefaced the opening of the mummy, which was fixed for the next day, by a brief description of Thebes—of the mummy itself, and the able manner in which Mr. Pettigrew illustrated by it the history of embalming, exciting his audience beyond what could have been anticipated—and of the public dinner, whereat Lord Lyttleton presided—we need not speak; nor even of the closing day, when well-deserved votes of thanks were offered to both "town and gown," for their hearty reception. Suffice it to say, that the whole concurred to render this the most gratifying meeting the association has held; and, in respect of the original invitation to the council, fully to justify Worcester in retaining its ancient appellation of the Faithful City.

The Patent Domestic Telegraph.—Since our notice of the application of the principle of the electric telegraph to domestic purposes by Mr. Reid, of Birmingham, he has made some improvements, and extended the use of the instrument in hotels, taverns, tea-gardens, coffee and chop-houses, public companies, and private houses, and even in mines. The alteration is confined to the dial-plate, on which the specific questions and demands are disposed in due order.

* In these cloisters is the tomb-stone inscribed simply Miserrimus, which has given rise to some sonnets, and a well-known powerful prose tale under the same title. There is a volume in the inscription itself,—*The most miserable!*

† Quoting the local "Guide," we said last week that St. Andrew's spire is 55 feet 6 inches high. Consideration suggested that this must be wrong, and looking to Valentine Green's "Survey of the City of Worcester," we found it there set down as *one hundred* and fifty-five feet six inches, which seems much more like the truth. In our first paper we accidentally omitted notice of the president's deserved commendation of some specimens of stained glass, by Mr. George Rogers, of Worcester, which were exhibited in the Assembly-room.

THE SMOKE NUISANCE.

SUGGESTION FOR A REMEDY.

"Breathe not the chaos of eternal smoke
And volatile corruption from the dead,
The dying, sickening, and the living world
Exhal'd, to sully Heaven's transparent dome
With dim mortality.
* * * * * * *
The lungs abhor
To drink the dun fuliginous abyss."

That an atmosphere, thickened and polluted by sooty matter, is injurious to health as well as productive of personal discomfort, is a fact sufficiently attested in the evidence of many medical men besides Dr. Armstrong, from whose "Art of Preserving Health" the foregoing passage is taken. In Mr. John Leigh's communication to the Health of Towns' Commissioners, upon the injurious effects of coal smoke, we learn that diseases of the respiratory organs, including phthisis, exist in the great manufacturing districts of Lancashire and Cheshire to a greater extent than in any other part of the kingdom; that phthisis, in most cases, if not always, is the result of a very low degree of inflammation of the pulmonary tissue, amounting to scarcely more than irritation, and that coal smoke, or soot consists of particles capable of irritating the lungs when inhaled, mechanically by the insoluble carbon and chemically by the sulphate of ammonia they contain.

With scientific evidence before us, such as this, in addition to that innate consciousness which every man has, however little acquainted he may be with the physiology and chemical effects of respiration, of the physical injury arising from the inhalation of air surcharged with the palpable products of combustion, none perhaps will venture to deny, that how to prevent the emission of smoke from furnaces is a question of vital importance to the community, and that a legislative enactment enforcing the use of some approved plan, or plans, for that purpose, is much to be desired. The desideratum is, however, some generally practicable mode of effecting this. To require that all furnaces shall consume their own smoke, if no sure preventive to its emission exist, would be an obnoxious measure; and although, as in the Smoke Prohibition Bill recently brought before the House of Lords, and thrown out, there might be introduced a saving clause excluding furnaces used in certain manufactures from the operation of the Act, and allowing any party complained of "to shew that he has adopted and carefully used some well-approved method for the consumption of the smoke issuing from such furnace, and endeavoured, to the best of his power, to abate the nuisance arising from the same," yet the liability of all proprietors of furnaces to be summoned, perhaps repeatedly, and the being compelled to shew not only that they had endeavoured, to the best of their power, to abate the nuisance, but, moreover, that the methods used by them were well-approved ones, might be productive of much useless trouble and expense, and, consequently, of an amount of mental irritation more hurtful, perhaps, than the mechanical or chemical irritation of their neighbours' lungs by the inhalation of the smoke complained of.

In this condition of things, while Parliament is manifesting a desire to enforce the adoption of such sanitary regulations as appear the best calculated to promote the general weal, and is deterred from passing a measure having for its specific object the prevention of the smoke nuisance, merely because of the non-existence of preventive means applicable to furnaces in general, it is incumbent upon all whose occupation or calling is connected with the combustion of coal in large quantities, to give the smoke problem their best consideration, with a view to the discovery of such mechanical or chemical appliances as may be found subservient to the end in view.

While endeavouring to discover what form of mechanism is best adapted to produce a given effect, the engineer is often very materially aided by the casual observation of some natural means, specially adapted to an end analogous to that proposed. So striking, indeed, are the points of resemblance between some of the applications of mechanical science and certain of the innumerable contrivances of nature, that were the study of physiology to form part of the general education of an engineer, there would no doubt occur to him, from the contemplation of the infinite variety of means admirably adapted to certain ends, many useful

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